

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

1. An integrated container and infuser apparatus comprising:  
a container having an interior cavity for holding an infusible substrate prior to infusion; and  
an infuser in removable association with said container, said infuser having a well portion for receiving said infusible substrate, and having a plurality of apertures for permitting infusion of said infusible substrate.
2. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said plurality of apertures are disposed through said well portion.
3. The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising a lid in removable association with said container, said lid having a rim for sealing engagement with said container for preserving said infusible substrate during storage thereof.
4. The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising a cap in removable association with said infuser.
5. The apparatus of Claim 4, wherein said cap provides sealing engagement with said infuser for preserving said infusible substrate during storage thereof.
6. The apparatus of Claim 4, wherein said cap provides a temporary holding place for said infuser.
7. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said infuser includes at least two retaining clips for coupling said infuser to an associated drinking container.
8. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said infuser includes an outer peripheral flange to provide said removable association with said container.
9. The apparatus of Claim 7, wherein said infuser includes an outer peripheral flange to provide said removable association with said container.
10. The apparatus of Claim 9, wherein said retaining clips are coupled to said outer peripheral flange of said infuser.

11. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said infuser includes a protruding portion having a downwardly depending sidewall extending in an annular manner and a top wall, said protruding portion defining said well portion for receiving said infusible substrate.

12. A method of using an integrated container and infuser apparatus, said apparatus having a container having an interior cavity for holding an infusible substrate prior to infusion; and an infuser in removable association with said container, said infuser having a well portion for receiving said infusible substrate, and having a plurality of apertures for permitting infusion of said infusible substrate, said method comprising:

- removing said infuser from said container;
- obtaining an amount of infusible substrate from said container;
- placing said amount of infusible substrate within said well portion;
- placing said infuser within an opening of an associated drinking container;
- pouring a fluid through said infuser.

13. The method of Claim 12, further comprising:  
steeping said infusible substrate to extract flavors from said infusible substrate.

14. The method of Claim 12, said apparatus further having a cap, the method further comprising:  
placing said infuser on said cap after infusion.

15. The method of Claim 12, further comprising:  
coupling said infuser to an associated drinking container.

16. An integrated container and infuser apparatus comprising:  
a container having an interior cavity for holding an infusible substrate prior to infusion;

- an infuser in removable association with said container, said infuser having a protruding portion and a plurality of apertures; the infuser being positionable on the container with the protruding portion facing upward and being positionable on an associated drinking container with the protruding portion facing downward; and

- a cap removably positionable over the infuser, including over the protruding portion thereof.